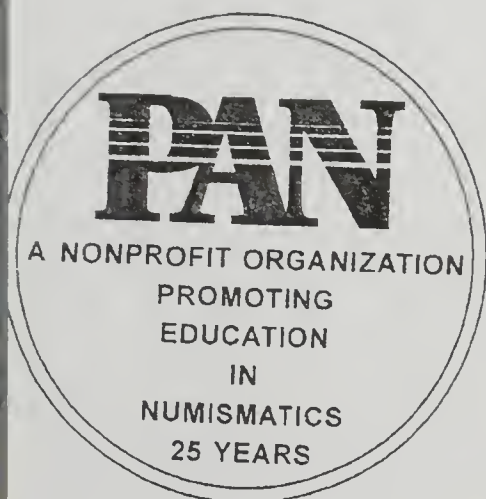




# PAN

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NUMISMATISTS

*A non-profit organization promoting education in numismatics*



Edward Gibbon, Numismatist. . .page 17

# CLARION

VOL.20, NO.3 (#69) DEC. 2003

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## *President's Message*

Dear PAN Members:

It started off with chilly, windy weather and a delicious, hot catered meal. It ended with continuous rain and an all-time record attendance for a Sunday. And, in between was a weekend full of fun, prizes and celebration.

What am I talking about? The 25th Anniversary PAN Show held October 24, 25 and 26 at the Pittsburgh ExpoMart in Monroeville, PA. This was also our 10th anniversary of continuous shows at the same location! Thursday night set-up for the dealers featured a hot meal of Italian Beef, Hot Sausage, Buffalo Wings and Rolls -- catered free-of-charge by the Radisson Hotel, compliments of the ExpoMart. A big thank you to Mr. Richard D'Achille of the ExpoMart!



That evening, PAN gave away a 1/10 oz. gold Eagle every half hour to a lucky dealer. PAN also showed our appreciation to the nearly 30 dealers (out of our 125) who have loyally set up at the show since we moved to the ExpoMart. Year after year, show after show, for ten years! We distributed black leather 3-ring binders embossed on the reverse in gold foil -- "PAN 10-year Club" -- for those dealers to carry around their gray sheets, business cards, checks, etc. Those dealers are:

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We were happy to have Ray Dillard and his elongated coins, plus Michael Bean and his spider press at the show to talk with the public and provide PAN with souvenirs commemorating this milestone show.

On Friday afternoon, PAN presented to each of the tabled dealers a black 6-pack cooler embossed in gold with the PAN logo. Something we thought every dealer could use -- a really "cool" gift. Get it ?

Nearly 3,500 people walked through the show. Buying, selling, trading, talking and learning. Meeting new faces. . .keeping in touch with old friends. The Coins 4 Kids meeting on Saturday afternoon was jam-packed with 62 youngsters plus their parents. And we were honored to have Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy come to the show to chat with these young collectors. Mayor Murphy collects both coins and stamps, and discovered an attraction to large cents.

In addition to our regular hourly door-prize drawings during the show for the public, we also gave away a silver dollar to celebrate our silver anniversary.

The banquet on Saturday night at the Radisson was a very enjoyable 2-1/2 hours. In addition to a wonderful meal and an entertaining guest speaker - John Kraljevich - we awarded the exhibit prizes and had a little auction. The banquet invitation was open to all members of PAN -- not just past and present officers. We encourage more dealers and collectors to attend, to learn more about PAN.

Brenda Bishop, ANA Show Coordinator, was also at the Show. She held meetings with the volunteers who will assist at the ANA Convention in downtown Pittsburgh next year. PAN is one of the supporting ANA clubs for this show. And remember, PAN is also having a summer show next August 15, 16 and 17 (Friday through Monday) immediately preceding the ANA Show. This PAN Show is in addition to our May and October PAN Shows. So, you'll get to enjoy the PAN Show three times in 2004 !

We could not have asked for a nicer, smoother, more enjoyable 25th Anniversary Show (although if it had rained on Friday and Saturday, it would have added a nice touch -- undoubtedly increasing our attendance).

If you missed out at the Show to buy either the silver or bronze 25th Anniversary medallion, or the souvenir baseball cap -- we still have a few available. The prices:

Bronze medallion	\$ 5. + \$ 1. shipping
Silver medallion	\$ 20. + \$ 4. shipping
PAN Baseball Cap	\$ 10. + \$ 4. shipping

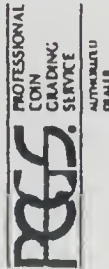
Sand checks payable to PAN to Chester Trzcinski, 5559 Foxhall Court,  
Frederick, MD 21703

Happy Collecting!

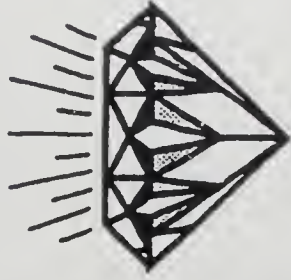
Kathy Sarosi, President



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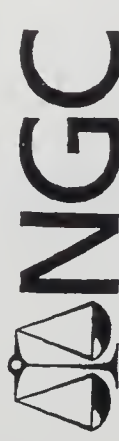
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# A Memorable 25th Anniversary Show

PAN's 25th Anniversary Show -- held October 24 - 26, 2003 at the Pittsburgh Expo Center in Monroeville, PA, was a huge success.

It boasted about 125 dealers doing business at 130 tables -- and business was reported to be very good, with the number of visitors estimated to be over 3,400. Most dealers reportedly were very pleased with the show.

## "Coins For Kids"

Once again, a very popular feature was the "Coins for Kids" program, held for two hours on Saturday afternoon. The meeting room was crowded -- as usual for this event -- with over 60 youngsters with at least that many parents.

## The Mayor of Pittsburgh

Several important visitors made appearances at the "Coins For Kids" program -- including Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy (pictured below) who spoke about the enjoyment he gets from collecting coins and stamps.



Mike Bean at Spider Printing Press

## Mike Bean

Another big attraction at the show was Mike Bean from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, who demonstrated an old Spider Printing Press, as well as offering impressive intaglio printed souvenir cards -- done on that press, of course. Yes, he also spoke briefly at the "Coins For Kids" assemblage.

And in attendance to help us plan for the 2004 summer ANA Convention -- slated for downtown Pittsburgh -- was the ANA's Convention Manager, Brenda Bishop.

---

The ANA's Brenda Bishop talks with elongated expert Ray Dillard.





Incidentally, our "Coins For Kids" coordinator, Wayne Homren, is the local chairman for that 2004 ANA Convention.

Also speaking briefly before the "Coins For Kids" group was John Kraljevich, Director of Numismatic Research for American Numismatic Rarities (of New Hampshire) -- who was also the featured speaker at the Saturday evening banquet.

---

John Kraljevich's words at the banquet (below) featured a numismatic story related to Pittsburgh



And Kerry Wetterstrom also spoke a few words to the youngsters at "Coins For Kids" -- his subject being the Page program at the ANA Show, an opportunity for education (and profit) for Young Numismatists.

### Exhibits

There were also many outstanding exhibits. Jerry Kochel, Emcee at the Banquet, proved to have the show's winning exhibit -- featuring Linden Hall Girls School in Lititz, PA (Jerry's home town).

Taking second place in exhibits was Ray Dillard, who displayed "An Elongated Tribute to the St. Louis Worlds Fair.

Third place went to Bill Cowburn for his exhibit of Liberty Seated Silver Dollars of 1860. Fourth in exhibits was Sam Deep, who showed "99 Ways to Collect."

Other fine exhibits included Coin Glass, shown non-competitively by John Eshbach; Types of U. S. Gold Coins, by Dick Duncan; Pittsburgh Bank Notes, by Wayne Homren; the "Circle of the Friends" medallion, by Rich Cross; and Sri Lanka coins, by Kavan Ratatunga.

### Junior Best

The Junior Best of Show award went to Josh Wadsworth, with a fascinating exhibit on "Imagination as Shown on the State Quarter Designs."

### People's Choice

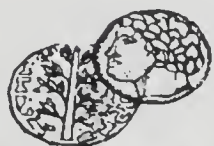
Sam Deep's "99 Ways to Collect" won the "People's Choice" award.

It was a memorable show, thanks to Bourse Chair John Sarosi, PAN President Kathy Sarosi, and many members who contributed their time and efforts.

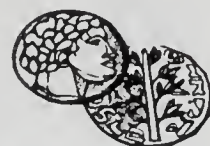
Now, we're all looking forward to three PAN shows, plus the ANA Show in Pittsburgh -- in 2004.

\* \* \* \* \*

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# The Treasure of the Andrea Doria

by Tom Sebring

The Andrea Doria was the pride of the Italian Line. Launched in 1951, the seven hundred foot vessel offered every convenience and luxury for individuals traveling between Genoa, Italy and New York City. The ship was named after a famous sixteenth century Italian admiral and statesman. She was lavishly decorated with works of art from many of Italy's finest living artists. The Andrea Doria could carry 1,240 passengers and a crew of 575. The first, second and tourist class passengers each had their own swimming pools.

On July 7, 1956, she left Genoa under the command of Captain Piero Calama. She had completed 100 previous Atlantic crossings without incident. She passed through the Straits of Gibraltar into the Atlantic Ocean and headed for New York. The weather was good, the seas smooth, and the passengers experienced a pleasant voyage.

## Sudden Fog

On Wednesday, July 25, as she approached New York, the Andrea Doria ran into heavy fog. At 10:45 p.m. a ship appeared on the Andrea Doria's radar screen about seventeen miles away. The second ship was the Swedish passenger ship Stockholm, which was leaving New



The Andrea Doria on her way to the bottom after the 7/25/56 collision with the Swedish ship, Stockholm.

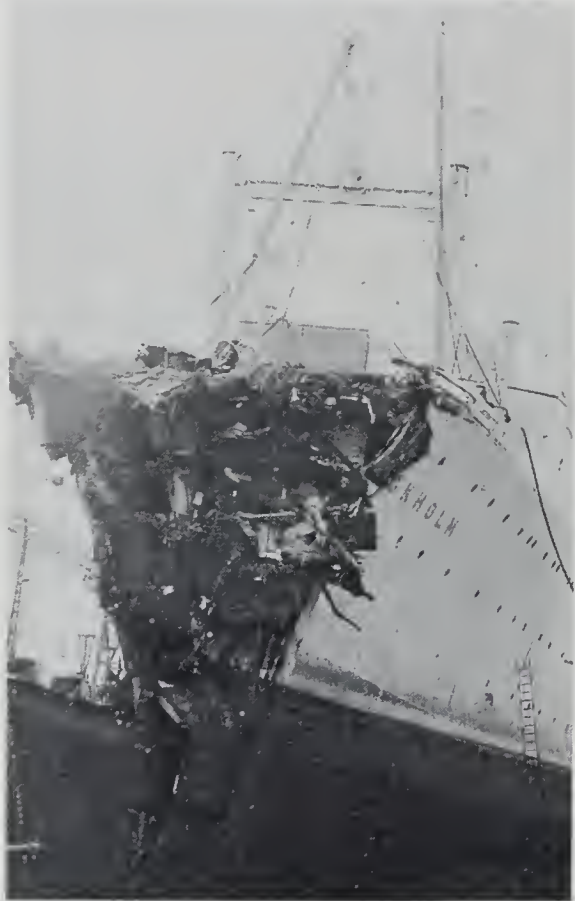
York. The Stockholm picked up the Andrea Doria on her own radar screen. In spite of the radar advance warning, which should have prevented trouble, the two ships were suddenly on a collision course.

## Collision

The Stockholm's bow, reinforced against ice, crashed into the Andrea Doria's port side with a terrific shock, penetrating thirty feet into the ship. Fifty one of the passengers and crew were killed. The Stock-



holm, though her bow was crushed, stayed afloat, and was able to help rescue many of the Andrea Doria's passengers and crew. Several other ships were also in the area and sped to the rescue.



The Stockholm's Damaged prow

#### A Media Sensation

The sinking of the Andrea Doria was one of the most spectacular sea disasters since the sinking of the Titanic in 1912. Since the Andrea Doria took almost eleven hours to sink, and she went down close to New York City, sightseers and journalists flocked to the scene. Photographs were taken and newsreels were filmed right up to the Andrea Doria's last moments at 10:10 a.m.

on July 26, 1956.

#### An Amazing Incident

An amazing incident emerged from the Andrea Doria tragedy. When the Stockholm smashed into the other ship, a number of people were killed in their cabins. One couple grieved for their young daughter, thought to have been killed in her room. Actually, she had been thrown from the Andrea Doria onto the bow of the Stockholm, where she was found with light injuries hours later. Two days later, she was reunited with her joyful parents in New York City after the Stockholm arrival there.

One of the first divers on the scene, the day after the Andrea Doria went down, was Peter Gimbel, the heir to the Gimbel fortune and an experienced diver. The Andrea Doria lay at 225 feet, a difficult but not impossible dive. Gimbel took the first underwater photographs of the Andrea, which were then published in Life Magazine.

#### Treasures of the Andrea Doria

Over the years, the Andrea Doria became a magnet for divers, due to her notoriety, the fact that she lay at a reasonable depth, and the rumors that she held a vast fortune.

Divers were able to bring up many souvenirs of the Andrea Doria, including fine china, brass fittings,

and the ship's bell. Particularly important recoveries were made by a New Jersey diver named John Moyer. He raised several valuable mosaic friezes from the Andrea Doria's first class lounge.

The real treasure, however, was thought to be a fortune in cash and precious stones locked in the Andrea Doria's two safes. Many divers tried over the years to locate and raise the two safes, but without success.

#### A Diver's Obsession

Enter Peter Gimbel again. Since his first dive on the wreck in 1956, he had become almost obsessed by the Andrea Doria. He and his wife, Elga Andersen, had long planned to make a movie about the ship.

During the 1970s, the technology for deep sea diving had changed dramatically with the development of the "saturation diving" concept. This involves the utilization of a pressurized diving chamber in which the divers could live underwater while working at extreme depths.

In 1981, Gimbel decided to utilize the "saturation diving" concept to dive on the Andrea Doria and make his long-planned movie. It was to be called, "Andrea Doria! The Final Chapter." One of his main objectives in this project was to be locating and raising the two legendary safes --

the purser's safe and the bank safe. Did they contain jewels, gold and banknotes? Gimbel was determined to find out. He and his wife launched "THE DORIA PROJECT." It featured the Sea Level II, a 190-foot vessel, and a saturation diving vessel in which three divers could live underwater while working the wreck.

#### An Exhausting Search

In the twenty five years since the wreck occurred, considerable debris had built up in and around the ship. In addition, winds and high seas plagued the divers' efforts. And while they knew where the two safes were located -- in the first class lounge -- finding them was another matter. Finally, on August 19, 1981, the bank safe was located and six days later it was hauled aboard the salvage vessel. Exhausted and running low on supplies, the divers and Gimbel agreed to return to port without locating the second safe.

#### A TV Spectacular?

Rather than open the safe immediately, it was decided to place it on public display in the New York Aquarium while plans were developed to open the safe on national television. In the meantime, experts were consulted on techniques to conserve the expected contents of the safe. The safe remained in the Aquarium until 1984.



There were no known records of the safe's contents. Rumors still abounded that it held a shipment of diamonds. In any case, it was considered likely that it contained currency. A survey of preservationists regarding the probable physical status of any currency in the safe concluded that, after 25 years under water, only a few small scraps of currency would be found.



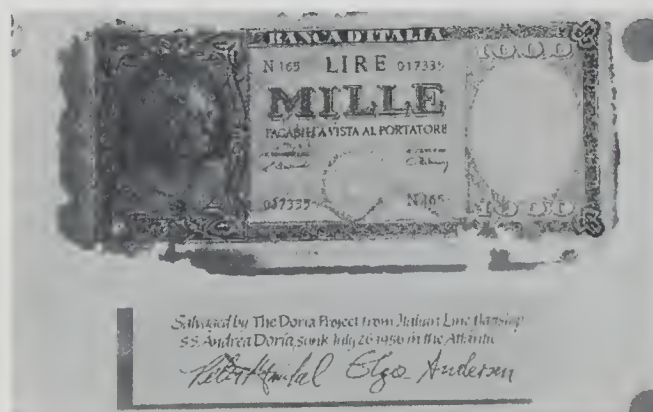
U.S. Silver Certificate salvaged from the Andrea Doria.

### The Grand Opening

On August 3, 1984, the safe's 650-pound door was opened before a national television audience. It was one of the highest rated TV shows in history. Gimbel and his wife Elga watched breathlessly as packs of currency floated to the top of the black water in the safe. Amazingly, the bills were substantially intact. There were thousands of bills in the safe. There was an Andrea Doria

treasure after all! However, there were no diamonds or gold to be found in the safe.

It was a delicate job to separate and preserve the waterlogged bills. The packs of currency were deep frozen, and then each bill was carefully separated from its pack, washed, rinsed, flattened and dried. Both Italian notes and U.S. silver certificates were found in quantity, plus a smaller number of American Express travellers cheques in denominations of ten and twenty dollars.



One thousand lira Italian note raised from the Andrea Doria.

The Italian notes were 1,000 lira bank notes, beautifully engraved. Low in the center of the face of each note was a rose-colored representation of the head of Medusa, while on the left was one of the Three Graces from Botticelli's famous painting, "La



Primavera." The ink on both the Italian and American notes held their sharpness and color extremely well through their twenty-five-year submersion. The United States silver certificates were, if anything, even better preserved than the Italian lira notes.

Many of the notes were mounted in acrylic and sold as souvenirs in 1986. The notes are fascinating memories of one of the most fascinating shipwrecks of our time.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sources of Information for "The Treasure of the Andrea Doria," published above:

Cush, Cathie, "Shipwrecks" New York: Metro Books, 1967

Pearsall, Ronald, "Lost at Sea - Great Shipwrecks of History" New York, Smithmark publications, 1996

Konstam, Angus, "The History of Shipwrecks" Lyons Press, 1999

The Doria Project, New York, 1985

Bowere and Merena, Rare Coin Review, January/February, 2003, No. 151

Coin World, September 5, 1984, "Reaching for the Cash"

Morrow, Lorinda, "Recovered Treasures Displayed," Philadelphia Inquirer, September 5, 1984.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Those New Twenties

Why on earth is the government spending a fortune advertising those new \$20 notes? Actually, the reasons are quite logical: (1) They want all of us to recognize and accept them, and (2) they want retailers (and everyone) to know the security features -- to identify and accept the "real thing." (Yes, counterfeits are already appearing).

You probably have one in your pocket, so take it out and look for these key features:

Watermark. Hold the bill up to the light and you'll see another faint image of Andrew Jackson.

Color-Shifting Ink. Check out the number "20" in the lower right corner. When you tilt the bill up and down, you will see the color changes from copper to green and back.

Security Thread. This one may be a little harder to see. Look closely for the embedded security thread -- on the face of the bill, close to the left edge. (Actually, you can see it from both sides -- face and back of the note.) You'll see a tiny flag and the words, "USA TWENTY."

One more thing. Be assured that the old \$20 notes are still good -- and will be, as long as they're around.

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### **Show Calendar**

Dec. 20 - Allentown, PA -  
Allentown Coin & Stamp Club  
Show, Merchants Sq. Mall, 12th  
& Vultee Streets.

Jan. 17, 18 - Cheswick, PA -  
Cheswick C.C. Show, Futules  
HarmarHouse, 1321 Freeport Rd.

Feb. 7, 8 - Pittsburgh, PA -  
South Hills C.C. Show, Windsor  
Court Hotel (formerly Ramada  
Inn), 164 Fort Couch Rd., across  
from South Hills Village.

Feb. 28, 29 - Wintersville, OH -  
Ohio Valley Coin Assn., Saint  
Florian Hall, 286 Luray Drive,  
off Rte. 43 behind Fire Hall.

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May 14, 15, 16 - Monroeville,  
PA - PAN Coin Show, Pittsburgh  
ExpoMart, Route 22 (PA Turn-  
pike exit 6).

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May 20-23 - Columbus, OH -  
Ohio State Numis. Assn. Show,  
Franklin County Veterans  
Memorial, 300 W. Broad St.

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#### **Are You Up-To-Date ?**

Check the mailing label on this issue  
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your name, (or "L" for Life Member)  
you're paid up for 2004. If not, it's  
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# A Numismatic Item Relating to the Career of Edward Gibbon

by E. Tomlinson Fort

Edward Gibbon is best known today for his great work, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. (1) A work that is today considered to be one of the greatest historical studies ever produced. The author first read it when he was an undergraduate, and he has continued to reread it over the years and developed a great interest in Gibbon and his research.

Recently, a financial document written and signed by Gibbon in 1769 came into the author's possession. This essay will be a preliminary examination of this numismatic document and the information it provides regarding Gibbon's career.

Edward Gibbon was born on April 27, 1737, the oldest of seven children and the only one to survive beyond the age of three.(2) His father, also named Edward Gibbon (hereafter Gibbon the Elder), was a minor country gentleman and member of the British Parliament. His mother, Jane Porten, died in 1747. His father would later marry Dorothea Patton, with whom Gibbon would remain close for the rest of his life.

As a young boy, Gibbon's poor health meant that he spent little time in school, sometimes missing classes



A mid-nineteenth century portrait  
of the subject, Edward Gibbon.

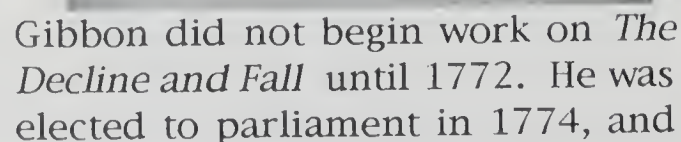
for months at a time. Fortunately, at the age of 16, his physical condition improved, and he was able to enter Magdalen College at Oxford University. His autobiography records a damning picture of the University at that time, and Gibbon learned little. With so much free time on his hands, Gibbon rebelled against his background and converted to Roman Catholicism. This action was still technically treasonous in England and it would have barred him from either voting or following his father into parliament. Naturally, the action outraged his



some years for the passions to cool, the two of them remained good friends for the rest of Gibbon's life.

In 1763, Gibbon went on his famous tour of the continent, the climax of which was his visit to Rome. There, he later recorded, “on the fifteenth of October, 1764, as I sat musing amidst the ruins of the Capitol, that the idea of writing the decline and fall of the city first started in my mind.”

The title page of Gibbon's copy of Renier Budel's *De monetis et re numaria* (Cologne, 1596). This is one of a number of numismatic works that were once part of the historian's library.



while he served until 1782 he never spoke once in that body due to extreme personal shyness. However, because of his literary reputation, he was employed by the North government to write a book supporting the British position during the American War of Independence. (4) Later, he served as a member of the Board of Trade, a position which helped his financial position, though it slowed his progress on his masterpiece.

The first volume of *The Decline and Fall* was published in 1776, and created an immediate sensation. While Gibbon had officially returned to Protestantism in 1755, his study of the early church writings and his other readings had made him a religious skeptic, and his chapters dealing with the history of Christianity outraged many of the fundamentalists of his day. (5) Gibbon would later remark that if he had to do it again, he would have toned the work down, but these sections were pioneering in that for the first time they brought the full historical criticism of the Enlightenment to bear on early Christian sources by a man who knew them better than most of his contemporaries.

With the loss of the American war and the fall of the North government, Gibbon abandoned his parliamentary career and moved back to Lausanne where he spent some of

the happiest years of his life. Here, he finished the last three volumes of his great work, and began his autobiography. (6) The latter was never finished, but like *The Decline and Fall* it broke new ground with its honesty and self criticism.

Due to the French Revolution and the danger of its spilling over into Switzerland, Gibbon returned to Britain in 1793, where his health declined. Later that same year, he was forced to undergo an operation to relieve a severe swelling in his testicles. Undoubtedly because of the poor hygiene of the day, an infection set in. Gibbon never recovered his strength, and he died on January 16, 1794.

*The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* remains one of the most important historical works ever produced in the English language. While some portions have obviously been dated or superseded by more recent studies, it remains virtually the only work on Roman history published before the 1920s that is regularly cited and listed in the bibliographies of modern works on the Roman and Byzantine periods. Gibbon's unique writing style, the depth of his reading and research and his willingness to tell the truth as he saw it make this history truly one of the great literary works of the modern world and explains why it continues to be

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read and admired more than 200 years after the death of its author.

Gibbon's historical research also gave him a thorough knowledge of numismatics. His library contained an extensive collection of numismatic works. (7) In his autobiography, he notes that he read Spanheim's *Dissertationes de praestantia et usu numismatum* in 1754 as preparation for his European tour. (8) Gibbon even began his own monograph dealing with numismatics, *Principes de poid, des monnoies, et des mesures des anciens*, in 1759. For a number of reasons, the project was never finished, and a modern edition would certainly be welcome. (9) A few years later, Gibbon wrote an extensive series of notes regarding Joseph Addison's *Dialogues upon the Usefulness of Ancient Medals, Especially in Relation to the Latin and Greek Poets*, which like his unfinished book were published posthumously. (10)

Likewise, *The Decline and Fall* contains numerous discussions and notes about the coinages of Rome and Byzantium. (11) Gibbon also suggested to his publisher a supplementary volume of *The Decline and Fall* which would, among other things, contain plates with illustrations of the coinage, and presumably an explanatory text. (12) Sadly, the situation in Europe as well as

Gibbon's death prevented this from coming about.

With Gibbon's well-documented interest in numismatics, it was very pleasing for the author to acquire a numismatic item relating to Gibbon himself. A couple of years ago, I purchased at auction a "cheque" for L 79 7s written by Gibbon to a Mr. Morris Evans on June 1, 1769.

The face (above) and back of the bill of exchange written by Gibbon

Handwritten bill of exchange. The text is written in cursive and includes the date "1st June 1769" and the name "Morris Evans". It appears to be a payment order for 79 pounds and 7 shillings.

The back of the bill of exchange, showing the signature of the author, Edward Gibbon, and some other handwritten notes.

Needless to say, I immediately began to look through all of the material I could find to learn what I could about this document and the people named upon it.

The first thing is that the document



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is not, as listed in the description, a cheque. Rather, it is a bill of exchange. The difference between the two is that a cheque is payable upon demand while a bill of exchange is payable a certain number of days after it is presented to the bank. The document clearly says on the face, "At four days sight, pray pay --." Thus, Mr. Evans would not receive his money until at least four days after he had presented it to the bank. Hence, this is a bill of exchange, and the dealer made a common mistake.

The names of three people appear on this document. Gibbon's career and accomplishments have already been discussed above. The second person, whose name and signature appear on the lower left portion of the face, is James Scott. It is the appearance of his name along with the date of the bill that have given the author some clues as to why Gibbon wrote this document.

Edward Gibbon the Elder was many things. Sadly, among his talents was not the ability to manage his finances, which can only be described as a mess. (13) This situation grew worse as Gibbon the Elder grew older, and in 1768, Gibbon was brought in to try to make some order among his father's financial affairs before the family was left penniless. To aid Gibbon in this endeavor, James Scott, a cousin of

Gibbon's stepmother was brought in. Scott had served as the Surveyor of Customs in the colony of Antigua, and thus presumably had some financial skills.

Most of Gibbon's time in 1768 and 1769 was spent making order among his father's situation. The surviving correspondence shows that the two men worked closely in the handling of Gibbon the Elder's finances.(14) However, the evidence does not suggest that Scott was in any way occupied in financial matters which did not involve the estate or affairs of Gibbon the Elder. If the bill of exchange was intended to pay one of Gibbon's personal debts, it would seem unlikely that Scott would have been involved. Therefore, since the bill was sent by Gibbon to Scott, this indicates that Evans was a creditor to whom Gibbon's father owed money.

Thus, it must have been Scott who was responsible for the delivery of the bill to Evans. Why did Gibbons do this? An answer is suggested by a letter from Gibbon to his father dated June 1, the same day that he wrote the bill of exchange. (15) Sadly, the letter does not mention the document under discussion, but Gibbon does inform his father that he will be attending a meeting of members of the Hampshire militia and would not be able to visit his family until afterwards. (16) There



is no mention in the letter as to when and where the meeting was to be held, though it must be presumed that it took place outside of London. The tone of the letter suggests that Gibbon was going to be leaving very soon for the meeting. His next surviving letter was produced in London and is dated June 22. (17) It may be that Gibbon was to be away from London when Evans would be in the capital, and he therefore entrusted the bill of exchange to Scott.

Scott's signature on the lower left of the document was probably required to ensure that the bill of exchange did not go astray, since Gibbon may have sent it to him by some unrecorded party. Likewise, the four day delay may have been intended so that the institution where Evans planned to deposit the sum could verify its authenticity.

Sadly, the author has not been able to gather any information about the recipient of the bill - Morris Evans. This man does not appear in any of Gibbon's published papers, nor does he appear to have been a prominent individual, since he is not listed in *The Dictionary of National Biography*.

The amount which he was to be paid (79 pounds, 7 shillings) was quite large for the time. It must be remembered that in the mid-

eighteenth century the average annual wage was around 5 pounds. Thus, this bill of exchange represents a fairly substantial sum. Gibbon the Elder owed money for bad business investments, land purchases and gambling as well as for the upkeep of his properties. Evans could have been involved with any of these.

Evans endorsed it on the back and seems to have deposited it at a bank named Boals. At present, the author has not been able to find any information on this institution. The date of 10 June at the top center of the face presumably is the date that Evans brought the bill to his bank.

As the reader can see, there are still a number of questions left unanswered regarding this document. What debt was Gibbons paying when he wrote this bill of exchange? Who was Morris Evans? Is there any evidence regarding the financial institution(s) involved in this transaction? At present, based upon the current published evidence, it is not possible to answer any of these questions. One can only hope that more material will come to light.

Despite these limitations to my research, this bill of exchange is a fascinating numismatic link to one of the great historians of the ancient world. It seems only fitting that a man who was well acquainted with

numismatic evidence and used it in his own writings should leave behind at least one piece of numismatic evidence regarding his own career.

.....

(1) E. Gibbon, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* , 6 vols. (London, 1776-1788). The two best modern editions are those edited by J.B. Bury, 7 vols. (1909-1914). which has been reprinted many times since, and D. Womersley, 3 vols. (London, 1994).

(2) Numerous biographies of Gibbon are available. The best are D.M.Low, *Edward Gibbon 1737-1794* (New York, 1937) and P.B. Craddock *Young Edward Gibbon, Gentleman of Letters* (Baltimore, 1982) and *Edward Gibbon, Luminous Historian 1772-1794* (Baltimore, 1989).

(3) Gibbon's first book is *Essai sur l'etude de la litterature* (Lausanne, 1758).

(4) E. Gibbon, *Memoire justificatif pour servir de response a l'expose, etc de la cour de France* (London, 1779)

(5) See D. Womersley, *Gibbon and the Watchman of the Holy: The Historian and his Reputation, 1776-1815* (Oxford, 2002).

(6) The work was never completed. Five different incomplete drafts were written by Gibbon. They can all be read in E. Gibbon, *The Autobiographies of Edward Gibbon* , ed. Sir John Murray (London, 1896).

(7) E. T. Fort, "Edward Gibbon's Numismatic Books" *The Asylum* (forthcoming). The author's library contains Gibbon's copy of R. Budel, *De monetis et re numaria* (Cologne, 1596)

(8) E. Gibbon, *Memories of My Life* , ed. B. Radice (London, 1991), p. 144. E. Spanheim, *Dissertationes de praestantia et usu numismatum antiquorum* , 2 vols. (London and Amsterdam, 1717). Gibbon's copy is now in the collection of Brown University, see G. Keynes, *The Library of Edward Gibbon*, 2nd Ed. (Dorchester, 1980), p. 254.

(9) The original manuscript is in the British Library, BL Add MSS. 34881. An edited version of the text is in E. Gibbon, *Miscellaneous Works* ed. Lord Sheffield, vol. 5 (London, 1814), pp 66-169. On the story of the writing of this work see Craddock (1982), pp 139-140, 231-232.

(10) E. Gibbons, *A Dissertation on the*

*Allegorical Beings Found on the Reverses of Medals*, in E. Gibbon, *Miscellaneous Works* , ed. Lord Sheffield, vol. 5 (London, 1814) pp 35-39. A more modern edition may be found in *The Asylum* 21 (2003), pp 2-7.

(11) B. Overbeck, *Numismatische Bezuge im Werk Edward Gibbon (1737-1794)* in *Numismatische Literatur 1500-1865* , ed. P. Berghaus (Wiesbaden, 1995), pp. 177-184. Surveys the numismatic discussions in *The Decline and Fall* and the autobiography but it does not consider the posthumously published works mentioned above nor references in Gibbon's letters, journals or other minor works. The author hopes to present a more comprehensive discussion of Gibbon's numismatic research at the ANA Convention in 2004.

(12) Letter to Thomas Cadwell, dated November 17, 1790 in E. Gibbon, *The Letters of Edward Gibbon* , vol. 3, 1784-1794, ed. J. E. Norton (London, 1956) no. 768, pp. 209-210.

(13) J. E. Norton, "he Financial Affairs of Edward Gibbon II" in E. Gibbon, *The Letters on Edward Gibbon*, vol. 1: 1750-1773, ed. J.E. Norton (London, 1956), pp 402-407 - tries to make some sense of the complicated situation.

(14) See Gibbon's letters in Gibbon (1956), vol. 1, pp. 228-279. Craddock (1982), pp. 268-276. Gives details of Scott's correspondence with both Gibbon and his father.

(15) Gibbon (1956), no. 105, pp. 252-253.

(16) Gibbon had served as a Captain in the Hampshire militia from 1759 until 1770.

(17) Gibbon (1956), no. 106, p. 252.

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Initiated by the Harrisburg Coin Club in 1966 (and named for deceased member, James Wagner), the award has been presented annually since 1966. For several years, it was presented by the Central Pennsylvania Numismatic Assn. When that organization ceased operating, it was taken over by Red Rose (the largest coin club in the area).

Also nominated for the award by Central Pennsylvania clubs were David L. Rittner of Harrisburg Coin Club; and Samuel B. Socks, Jr., Waynesboro Coin Club.

Awards Chairman Dick Duncan said each of the nominees was worthy of receiving the award.

Mills, however, is a prime example of the kind of member every club needs if it is to be truly successful.

A faithful member for about 30 years, he's always available when needed. He has given many talks on numismatics. He has exhibited at coin shows, and won the top award for a currency exhibit. An article he wrote appeared in the state's numismatic journal, the *Clarion*.



Ralph Mills, left, accepts Wagner Award from Red Rose Pres. Charles Rohrer.

He has served as Membership Chairman, Auction Co-Chairman, on the Board of Directors, as Vice-President and as Club President.

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1941	11.00	16.00	18.00
1942	11.00	16.00	16.00
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1936	85.00	105.00	240.00	1949	27.50	27.50	27.50
1937	105.00	255.00	235.00				
1938	160.00	495.00	—				
1939	80.00	85.00	190.00				
1940	70.00	70.00	190.00				
1941	75.00	105.00	175.00				
1942	80.00	105.00	175.00				
1943	80.00	105.00	175.00				
1944	80.00	105.00	175.00				
1945	80.00	105.00	175.00				
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1936	45.00	655.00	105.00	1936	85.00	105.00	240.00
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1938	115.00	125.00	125.00	1938	160.00	495.00	—
1939	45.00	79.00	135.00	1939	80.00	85.00	190.00
1940	40.00	165.00	45.00	1940	70.00	70.00	190.00
1941	35.50	89.00	65.00	1941	75.00	105.00	175.00
1942	30.00	40.00	125.00	1942	80.00	105.00	175.00
1943	30.00	80.00	65.00	1943	80.00	105.00	175.00
1944	27.50	30.00	35.00	1944	100.00	200.00	265.00
1945	27.50	45.00	27.50	1945	100.00	200.00	265.00
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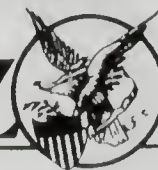
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